

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20 ACDA-19 AEC-11 OIC-04

OMB-01 DRC-01 /164 W

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R 031318Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4342

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY/OTTAWA 392

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USDEL SALT II GENEVA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

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GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, UR

SUBJECT: PRAVDA SURFACES SOVIET MBFR PROPOSAL FOR
DOMESTIC AUDIENCE

1. PRAVDA DECEMBER 2 GAVE SOVIET READERS FIRST LOOK AT SOVIET MBFR PROPOSAL. IT PRINTED TASS PIECE FROM VIENNA WHICH OUTLINED SIGNIFICANT DETAILS OF EASTERN PROPOSAL WHILE SELECTING ASPECTS OF WESTERN PROPOSAL FOR CRITICISM. ARTICLE NOTES THAT PROPOSALS HAVE ALREADY SURFACED IN WESTERN PRESS WITHOUT OF COURSE REFERRING TO SOVIET LEAK OF EASTERN PROPOSAL. SOVIET CONCERNS AIRED INCLUDE WESTERN EXCLUSION OF AIR FORCES AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS ("UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE AT EXPENSE OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES") AND WESTERN VAGUENESS ABOUT TIMING AND CHARACTER OF SECOND PHASE REDUCTIONS (TASS ACCOUNT DOES ALLOW THAT WEST CONTEMPLATES U.S. AND SOVIET REDUCTIONS IN FIRST PHASE AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN SECOND).

2. DESPITE CRITICISM, TONE OF ARTICLE IS GENERALLY FAVORABLE. IT NOTES BUSINESSLIKE ATMOSPHERE WHICH HAS PERMITTED CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS "ALREADY IN FIRST MONTH." AND IT SAYS PROPOSALS SHOW READINESS OF BOTH SIDES FOR SERIOUS DIALOGUE. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT "ANY REDUCTION OF MILITARY FORCES AND ARMAMENTS - ON EQUAL-PERCENTAGE OR EQUAL-NUMBER BASIS - WOULD BE TO BENEFIT OF EUROPEAN PEOPLES AND OF DETENTE ON CONTINENT."

3. THIS PUBLIC AIRING OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TWO PROPOSALS SEEMS TO REFLECT SAME CONCERNS SOVIET NEGOTIATORS HAVE EXPRESSED IN VIENNA. PRAVDA ARTICLE DOES NOT, HOWEVER, GET INTO PARTICULAR PROBLEM SOVIETS HAVE WITH ALLIED EXCLUSION OF WEST GERMAN FORCES FROM PHASE ONE REDUCTIONS. MOSCOW'S PREOCCUPATION WITH FRG'S MILITARY STRENGTH IS NEVERTHELESS EVIDENT IN NEW TIMES (NUMBER 48) ATTACK ON DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER'S SPEECH TO WEU ASSEMBLY. NEW TIMES, IGNORING LEBER'S REMARKS OF U.S. - WESTERN EUROPEAN INTER-

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DEPENDENCE, MAKES HIM OUT AS PROONENT OF TURNING EC INTO MILITARY ORGANIZATION AND EVEN HINTS THAT HE IS NOT FAR FROM DREAMING OF "EUROPEAN NUCLEAR WEAPONRY."
DUBS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP REDUCTIONS, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1973
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW15052
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731249/aaaabkcq.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <24-Sep-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Subject: PRAVDA SURFACES SOVIET MBFR PROPOSAL FOR DOMESTIC AUDIENCE
TAGS: PFOR, PARM, UR, MBFR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005